

Industrial Pretreatment Program

The Industrial Pretreatment Program was established in 1985 when State regulators delegated the supervision of industries to municipalities. Industrial Pretreatment Inspectors are responsible for permitting, sampling, and inspecting 16 local industries to insure that they are abiding by all local, state, and federal regulations. Once every three years, Industrial Pretreatment must survey all industries and commercial properties to assure that the quality of wastewater entering the sewerage system is such as to not detriment the wastewater treatment facility. Some pollutants, such as solvents and acids, could harm the wastewater treatment plant's microorganisms leaving the wastewater untreated. Other pollutants, such as motor oil and zinc, can not be treated and could bypass the treatment plant and reach the Sabine River. Therefore, the Industrial Pretreatment Division must be aware of the potential discharges of each industry. Industrial Pretreatment also publishes a bi-annual newsletter informing permitted industries of new regulations and pollution prevention alternatives and present an annual Pretreatment Excellence Award to one industry who has shown the most effort to reduce pollution.

Industrial Pretreatment is not only responsible for Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) quarterly influent and effluent sampling, sludge sampling every other month and sampling for quarterly effluent biomonitoring; but they are also responsible for quarterly stormwater sampling and monitoring at the WWTP. They are also responsible for tours of the WWTP and for educational presentations at area schools. Industrial Pretreatment runs required analytical tests on the influent and effluent, daily, at the WWTP and, regularly, runs process control tests on systems throughout the plant.

Along with responsibilities held at the WWTP, Industrial Pretreatment is responsible for permitting, sampling, and inspecting nineteen (16) local industries, ensuring that they abide by all local, state, and federal water related regulations. Industrial Pretreatment tries to keep a close relationship with the industries. This helps with other responsibilities held by Industrial Pretreatment. After the implementation of the stormwater program, Industrial Pretreatment has worked closely with the industries to ensure that they continue to protect the water bodies of the City of Longview (see Drinking Water: Source Water Protection and Watershed Management). They work closely with the industries to ensure they have very little stormwater runoff and have protection against spills at their facilities. These issues and new rules and regulations, important reminders and news that pertain to the facilities are published in a biannual newsletter sent out to the permitted industries and their affiliates. They also present annual Pretreatment Excellence Awards to industries that have shown the most effort to reduce pollution.

Once every three years, Industrial Pretreatment is required to survey all industries and commercial properties/facilities to assure that the quality of wastewater entering the sewerage system is not detrimental to the wastewater treatment facility and to identify any new industries with the potential to be permitted through the pretreatment program.

Industrial Pretreatment works closely with Building Inspections on approving plan reviews and Certificates of Occupancy for local businesses and is in the process of implementing a grease trap program. They have produced a Grease Trap Ordinance that is in the approval process. Once in place, Industrial Pretreatment will be able to enforce sizing and cleaning of grease traps in new and old businesses. Presently, they monitor and inspect grease traps within the City of Longview.

One of the major responsibilities of Industrial Pretreatment is emergency response, since this covers both the pretreatment and watershed part of the division. Along with spills that may affect the watershed, stormwater or source water of the city, Industrial Pretreatment works closely with many

other city departments and agencies by responding to spills that may affect the sewerage system and the Wastewater Treatment facility.

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